



**TESTIMONY
SCOTT BASSO
STEVE BASSO PLUMBING, HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING
CONNECTICUT HEATING & COOLING CONTRACTORS (CHCC)
BEFORE THE
GENERAL LAW COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 23, 2010**

Good afternoon. My name is Scott Basso. I am on the Legislative Committee for the Connecticut Heating & Cooling Contractors Association (CHCC), a trade association whose objectives are to strengthen and further trade relations, attract, educate and train necessary manpower, represent members at all levels of government and review and establish quality standards and procedures. The association represents over 125 Heating & Cooling Companies in Connecticut

CHCC supports SB- 185, An Act Concerning Advertising by Nonlicensed Tradespersons

This bill closes a gap in the current law by clarifying that it is a violation of the state's occupational licensing laws to hold yourself out in advertising as a licensed contractor if you are not properly licensed. A quick scan of the yellow pages of the phone book or a weekly newspaper turns up individuals or companies advertising to perform various trade work but who are not in fact licensed to perform that particular work. Some list home improvement contractor registration numbers but are not licensed to perform the type of work advertised in the paper or yellow pages. The average consumer generally does not know that a home improvement contractor is not authorized to perform electrical or heating and cooling work without the proper license.

We therefore support SB-185 to tighten up the occupational licensing laws and ensure that consumers are protected from individuals who hold themselves out to do work for which they are not licensed.

For more information, please contact Jennifer Jennings at CHCC, 22 Skyview Terrace, Manchester, CT 06040 or jjennings@chcca.net, Tel., 860-533-1163.